

***PHYTCORIS ADENOSTOMAE*, A NEW MIRINE PLANT BUG (HETEROPTERA: MIRIDAE) FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

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Abstract.—The new plant bug *Phytocoris adenostomae* is described from southern California where it breeds on *Adenostoma sparsifolium* Torr. (Rosaceae). The male genitalic structures are figured, and a photograph of the adult male and scanning electron micrograph of the dorsal vestiture are provided.

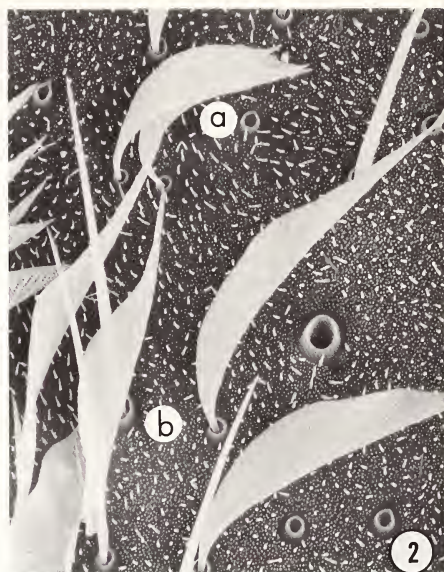
The genus *Phytocoris* contains 162 species from western America north of Mexico (Stonedahl, 1983). A manuscript in preparation by the author will include an additional 30 new species in a revisionary study of *Phytocoris* for that region. *Phytocoris adenostomae* is described here to validate the name for use in a study of Miridae associated with *Adenostoma* in California (conducted by John D. Pinto, Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, California 92521).

***Phytocoris adenostomae*, new species**

Figs. 1-7

Diagnosis. Distinguished from other species of *Phytocoris* in western North America by its small size, 3.94-4.48 mm; yellowish red general coloration, with fuscous markings on outer half of clavus and inner apical region of corium; dorsal vestiture with both silvery white and black, scale-like setae intermixed with dark simple setae (Fig. 2); short first antennal segment with erect, black bristle-like setae dorsally; and by the structure of the male genitalia, particularly the broad, densely setose tubercle on the genital capsule above the base of the left paramere (Fig. 3).

Description. Male. Length 3.94-4.48 (all measurements in millimeters), width 1.26-1.57; yellowish red general coloration with limited reddish brown or fuscous markings. Head: width across eyes 0.75-0.84, vertex 0.33-0.36; yellow or grayish yellow with red markings; frons moderately convex, meeting tylus along broad depression; eyes large, occupying slightly more than two-thirds head height; lower margin of antennal fossa situated slightly above ventral margin of eye. Rostrum: length 1.57-1.75, extending to 4th or 5th abdominal segment. Antennae: I, length of 0.57-0.67, red or reddish brown with white spots and 8-12 erect black bristle-like setae dorsally; II, length 1.40-1.57, brownish yellow, sometimes slightly darker apically; III, length 0.91-1.04, brown or fuscous, narrowly pale basally; IV, length 0.64-0.72, brown or fuscous. Pronotum: mesal length 0.59-0.75, posterior width 1.06-1.31; pronotal disk yellow or grayish yellow with red or reddish brown tinge; collar and calli sometimes extensively reddened; posterior submargin of disk with several weakly elevated, sometimes faintly infuscated, points; propleura pale brownish yellow, sometimes with scattered red markings and brownish tinge. Scutellum: weakly convex; yellow

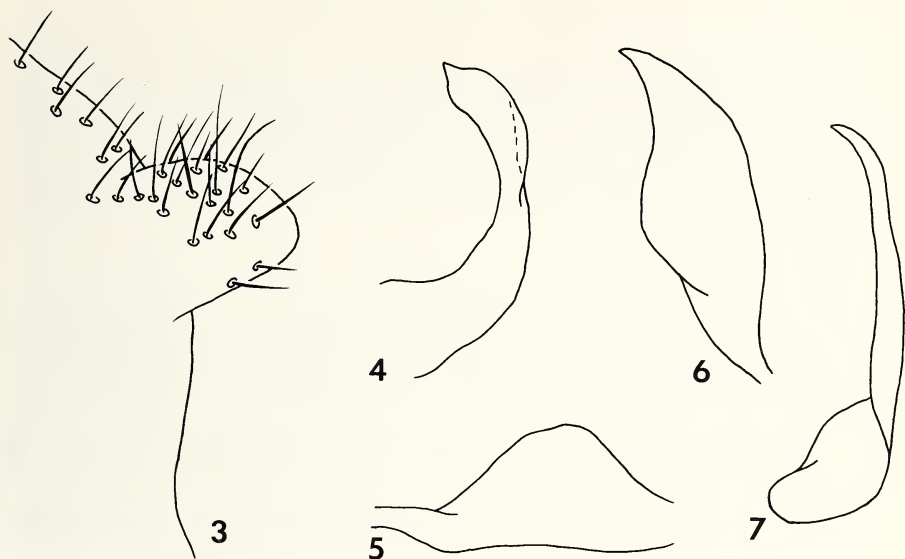


Figs. 1–2. *Phytocoris adenostomae*. 1. Adult female, dorsal view. 2. Dorsal vestiture: a, white scale-like setae; b, black scale-like setae.

or brownish yellow with red markings. Hemelytra: pale yellow or grayish yellow, moderately to extensively tinged or marked with red; outer half of clavus, inner apical region of corium, and inner margin and apex of cuneus usually marked with brown or fuscous; membrane extensively darkened, sometimes almost entirely fuscous with limited pale spots, veins infuscated except reddish distally. Venter: brownish yellow, moderately to extensively darkened with red or deep reddish brown. Legs: femora pale brownish yellow with red or reddish brown reticulations mostly on distal half of segment; hind femora more extensively darkened distally and marked with pale spots; tibiae red or reddish brown with pale spots. Vestiture: dorsum with dark simple setae intermixed with lanceolate flattened black setae and silvery white scale-like setae with apical serrations (Fig. 2). Genitalia: Figures 3–7. Genital capsule with broad, densely setose tubercle above base of left paramere (Fig. 3).

Female (Fig. 1). Similar to male in color, structure, and vestiture. Length 3.94–4.48, width 1.31–1.53. Head: width across eyes 0.76–0.81, vertex 0.37–0.40. Rostrum: length 1.66–1.84, extending to 5th or 6th abdominal segment. Antennae: I, 0.59–0.72; II, 1.46–1.67; III, 0.95–1.08; IV, 0.61–0.74. Pronotum: mesal length 0.61–0.72, posterior width 1.15–1.33.

Type data. Holotype: ♂, Oak Grove, San Diego Co., California, September 10, 1975, ex *Adenostoma sparsifolium* Torr., J. D. Pinto (AMNH). Paratypes: CALIFORNIA. Riverside Co.: 6♂♂, 4♀♀, same data as holotype (UCR); Palm Cyn., ca. 5 mi S Palm Springs, collected at light: 3♂♂, 5♀♀, July 1978, J. D. Pinto (UCR); 2♂♂, 3♀♀, September 29, 1978, K. Cooper (UCR).



Figs. 3–7. *Phytocoris adenostomae*, male genitalia. 3. Tubercle on genital capsule above base of left paramere, lateral view. 4. Apex of left paramere, dorsal view. 5. Base of left paramere, lateral view. 6. Right paramere, lateral view. 7. Sclerotized process of vesica, lateral view.

Additional specimens. 98 specimens were examined from the following localities: CALIFORNIA. Los Angeles Co.: Mint Cyn. (KU). Riverside Co.: Andreas Cyn. (UCR); Anza (KU); 3 mi E Anza (UCR); Deep Cyn. (UCR); Idyllwild (KU); 5 mi S Palm Spgs. (UCR); San Jacinto Mts., Herkey Crk. (UCB); Pine Mdw. (UCR); Pinyon Flat (UCB); Ribbonwood (UCB, UCR); Vandevanter Flat (UCB). San Diego Co.: 5 mi N Borrego Spgs. (UCB); Boulevard (KU, SDNH); Campo (KU); Oak Grove (UCB); 7.7 mi S Oak Grove (UCR). Collection dates are from May 21 to November 1. Males and females have been collected at light.

Etymology. Named for the genus of its host plant, *Adenostoma sparsifolium* (ribbon bush or red shank; Rosaceae).

Discussion. This species is distributed in the chaparral region of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Diego counties, California. It is the only plant bug (Miridae) other than *Rhinacloa forticornis* Reuter that breeds on *A. sparsifolium*, and appears to have more than a single generation per season (J. D. Pinto, pers. comm.). The distribution of *sparsifolium* is reported (Munz and Keck, 1973) to extend into San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, but *adenostomae* has not been collected north of Mint Canyon in Los Angeles County.

Phytocoris adenostomae closely resembles *P. acaciae* Knight, 1925, *P. miniatus* Knight, 1961, and *P. occidentalis* Stonedahl, 1984, but is distinguished from these species by the dark bristle-like setae on the first antennal segment and the broad, densely setose genital tubercle of the male.

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